



## Discussions and Video from the CSIS Panels

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Two weeks ago, leaders from the information sharing community gathered at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) for the Information Sharing: Adapting and Improving an Expanded ISE conference. Kshemendra Paul, Program Manager for the Information Sharing Environment (ISE), participated in the first panel discussion of the day, Information Sharing and the Future of the ISE, along with Tim Doran, Senior Director, Information Sharing and Safeguarding Policy, National Security Staff, and David Shedd, Deputy Director, Defense Intelligence Agency.

The panel expanded upon Director Clapper's opening remarks by discussing the importance of intelligence and information integration and the role of the ISE, its past successes, and its vision for the way forward. Kshemendra Paul explained that a key way to accomplish our information sharing goals is through technical and functional standards, which enable information sharing and exchanges. He also highlighted key examples of the development and evolution of the ISE, a few of which include:

- ISE mission partners are key to improving homeland security through successful information sharing. The Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting Initiative (NSI), which was established using both technical and functional standards, is an important example of this. Over 200,000 officers and first responders have been trained in suspicious activity reporting, often best known through the ?See Something, Say Something? campaign run by the Department of Homeland Security.
- The National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) program is an important part of our information sharing strategy for technical standards. The popularity of this program continues to spread not just throughout the US, but also to our international mission partners. Canada is planning to adopt NIEM to standardize their information sharing. Additionally, [we have signed Memorandums of Understanding with Mexico and Canada](#) <sup>[2]</sup> for information exchanges related to health and public safety information.
- As budgets continue to tighten, the federal government has started using shared services models and strategic sourcing to make more efficient purchasing decisions. State and local governments as well as industry partners also have made investments of their resources and time to develop standards and technologies to increase efficiency. We must leverage collective demand through procurement and acquisition.

When asked by the audience about the challenges we face, Mr. Paul discussed the ocean of data that we face, and that we need to improve the signal-to-noise ratio as we analyze this data. One way we can improve this is through interoperability and data aggregation. For example, a user on FBI's Law Enforcement Online can now log on a single station and access DNI's Intelink, and find state and local law enforcement data on RISSnet. Eventually, they will also be able to plug into DHS' Homeland Security

Information Network.

Watch the CSIS panel:

We are always interested in your feedback. Is there anything that you think we missed at CSIS that you'd like to discuss? Please comment below.

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[Information Sharing at CSIS Next Week: Adapting and Improving an Expanded ISE](#) [3]

[US, Mexico, and Canada Sign Memorandum of Understanding to Share Information](#) [2]

[Video: Director of National Intelligence Clapper gives Keynote on ISE at CSIS](#) [4]

### Tags:

[functional standards](#) [5]

[homeland security](#) [6]

[info sharing](#) [7]

[mission partners](#) [8]

[see something, say something](#) [9]

[suspicious activity reporting](#) [10]

[technical standards](#) [11]

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### Links:

[1] <http://ise.gov/media-center>

[2] <http://ise.gov/blog/david-l-mcclure/us-mexico-and-canada-sign-memorandum-understanding-share-information>

[3] <http://ise.gov/blog/kshemendra-paul/information-sharing-csis-next-week-adapting-and-improving-expanded-ise>

[4] <http://ise.gov/news/video-director-national-intelligence-clapper-gives-keynote-ise-csis>

[5] <http://ise.gov/category/free-tags/functional-standards>

[6] <http://ise.gov/category/free-tags/homeland-security>

[7] <http://ise.gov/category/free-tags/info-sharing>

[8] <http://ise.gov/category/free-tags/mission-partners>

[9] <http://ise.gov/category/free-tags/see-something-say-something>

[10] <http://ise.gov/category/free-tags/suspicious-activity-reporting>

[11] <http://ise.gov/category/free-tags/technical-standards>